

US 51/WIS 29 fact sheet

April 2004

Foxglove Road to Bridge Street

WisDOT is preparing to reconstruct US 51/WIS 29 between Foxglove Road and Bridge Street. Improvements include reconstruction of the interchanges at Marathon County N and NN, Sherman Street, WIS 29, WIS 52 and Bridge Street along US 51, the interchange ramps to Stewart Avenue along WIS 29, and the overpass at Robin Lane.

Design schedule

Designers completed final design of the Marathon County N interchange, which is scheduled to begin construction in summer 2004. Final design for the remaining portions of the project will continue through 2006.

Real Estate acquisition schedule

Designers for the US 51/WIS 29 Corridor project are refining the construction staging schedule required for the project. WisDOT also revised the real estate acquisition schedule to accommodate the updated construction schedule.

Real estate acquisition for the Marathon County N interchange is completed. All remaining acquisitions located south of the Big Rib River are expected to be complete in 2004.

Real estate specialists are currently in the process of contacting impacted property owners located north of the Big Rib River. The negotiation process will begin in 2004 for properties impacted by 2005 construction. WisDOT anticipates that the acquisition process will continue through 2007 for all remaining parcels. A handout showing the anticipated acquisition schedule is available upon request.

Construction schedule

The Marathon County N interchange project is the first of many construction projects required to construct the entire US 51/WIS 29 corridor. Construction of this interchange is scheduled to begin in 2004. The entire corridor improvement project is scheduled for completion by 2012. Major projects throughout the corridor are currently scheduled for construction as follows:

• US 51/WIS 29 mainline	2004 - 2010
• Marathon County N interchange	2004 - 2005
• Robin Lane overpass	2005
• US 51/WIS 29 east interchange	2005 - 2006
• Marathon County NN interchange	2005 - 2006
• WIS 52	2005 - 2006
• Rib River bridges	2005 - 2008
• Sherman Street interchange ramps	2006 - 2008
• Bridge Street interchange	2007 - 2008
• US 51/WIS 29 west interchange south system ramps	2006 - 2009
• Sherman Street	2010
• US 51/WIS 29 west interchange north system ramps	2011 - 2012



Traffic impacts during 2004 construction

Traffic delays may occur periodically. The following impacts to traffic are required to perform various construction activities during the 2004 construction season:

- Short-term lane closures of US 51/WIS 29 during off-peak travel times (from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m.).
- Short-term nighttime closures of Marathon County N (approximately 15 to 30 minutes in duration) for the construction and removal of US 51/WIS 29 structures.
- Detour starting fall 2004 for Marathon County N traffic destined for US 51/I-39 south.

Motorists can avoid the detour for Marathon County N traffic destined for southbound US 51/I-39 by entering onto southbound US 51 from the Marathon County NN interchange.

Properties adjacent to this project will have access at all times. If a temporary road closure is required during construction, access will be provided to adjacent businesses and residences.

Maintaining traffic flow

Several measures will be taken to minimize traffic delays during construction including:

- Maintaining two lanes of traffic in each direction on US 51 during peak traffic hours.
- Minimizing ramp closures by staging construction.
- Coordinating staging to limit temporary traffic shift conditions during winter months.
- Utilizing changeable message boards to provide advanced warning.
- Involving county and State Patrol in construction stage planning and maintenance.
- Providing alternate routes such as Marathon County R and N (new McCleary Bridge) that bypass construction.
- Prohibiting construction work on, or along, US 51/WIS 29 during major holidays in attempt to not increase traffic delays currently experienced throughout the corridor during weekends and holidays.

WisDOT encourages local motorists, who normally travel the US 51/WIS 29 corridor for short trips to consider using alternate routes whenever possible. Car pooling to work and planning off-peak travel times will also help to avoid traffic delays and maintain traffic flow.



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